

## Update # 6 Regarding BPPVE Approved Schools

The Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act of 1989 (Act), including the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education (BPPVE), became inoperative on July 1, 2007 and the Act itself was repealed on January 1, 2008. The Department of Consumer Affairs has worked to encourage schools to voluntarily agree to comply with the law as it existed on June 30, 2007. More information about this can be found at [www.bppve.ca.gov](http://www.bppve.ca.gov).

Effective February 27, 2009, the Board will be able to continue permitting applicants for MFT licensure and MFT Intern registration who obtain a degree from a BPPVE approved school between January 1, 2009 and June 30, 2012 to qualify, as long as the school held an approval to operate as of June 30, 2007. This change in policy is a result of a Board proposed rulemaking approved by the Office of Administrative Law January 28, 2009. This new regulation is in addition to the recently passed legislation outlined below.

On September 28, 2008 the Governor signed AB 1897 to address the sunset of the BPPVE.. This bill does two things:

- (1) Extends the Board's ability to accept degrees from schools that had a valid approval to operate from the BPPVE as of June 30, 2007 if the degree is conferred by July 1, 2010.
- (2) Permits the Board to accept qualifying degrees from schools accredited by any of the following regional accrediting bodies, regardless of BPPVE approval status:

Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools

Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

New England Association of Schools and Colleges

North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

The Board's ability to accept degrees conferred by schools accredited by any of the above regional accrediting bodies takes effect January 1, 2009 and will not expire.

***What does the passage of AB 1897 and the new regulation mean for a person attending a school formerly approved by the BPPVE whose degree was or will be conferred on or after July 1, 2007?***

If your school's BPPVE approval was still in effect on June 30, 2007; your degree was or will be conferred on or before June 30, 2012 ; and if your degree meets all other qualifications, it will be accepted for Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) Intern registration and MFT licensure.

If your school was approved by the BPPVE but is also accredited by one of the regional accrediting bodies mentioned above, your degree will be accepted for MFT Intern registration and MFT licensure.

***What does this mean for prospective students considering entering a MFT program?***

According to the new regulation, the Board will consider a degree awarded by an unaccredited school to meet the course requirements necessary to qualify for licensure if: (a) the school held an approval to operate from the BPPVE as of June 30, 2007, and, (b) if the degree was awarded on or before June 30, 2012. If your degree will be awarded by an unaccredited school after June 30, 2012, this new regulation will not allow the board to recognize that degree. If you are considering entering a degree program at a non-accredited school, we strongly suggest that you monitor the progress of reform legislation. **The Board cannot advise you on whether to enroll in any program (including those affected by the elimination of the BPPVE). However, the board is committed to providing you with information that can help you make an informed decision.**

**For further details regarding this and other related legislation, please contact your school or check for updates on the Department of Consumer Affairs' web site at [www.bppve.ca.gov](http://www.bppve.ca.gov).**